

**CLAIMS**

1. A multilayer, flexible patch configured for the transdermal delivery through the skin of a human subject of an active ingredient, which ingredient is adapted for reducing human cellulite and the reduction of other fatty tissues, comprising:

5 (a) a water vapor permeable, skin adherable, pressure-sensitive adhesive first layer containing by dispersal therethrough, a compound having a xanthine structure;

(b) an outer backing, second layer comprising a water vapor permeable, skin conformable fabric of a polymeric film adapted to provide moisture vapor permeability so to permit transepidermal moisture escape therethrough;  
10 and,

(c) a protective liner, third layer which is substantially non-adhesive as to the adjacent, normally skin-adherable first layer and is protective of the active ingredient.

15 2. The multilayer patch of Claim 1 wherein the xanthine structure is selected from a group consisting of caffeine, theophylline, 7-theophylline acetic acid, and theobromine.

3. The multilayer patch of Claim 1 wherein the pressure-sensitive adhesive is selected from a group consisting of an acrylate copolymer, a vinyl ether polymer,  
20 and a silicone adhesive polymer.

4. The multilayer patch of Claim 1 wherein the second layer is adapted to lightly adhere to the exposed surface of the third layer, to facilitate storage and handling of the patch during application to the skin of the human subject.

12. A multilayer, flexible patch configured for effecting the transdermal delivery of the skin of a human subject with an active ingredient, which ingredient is adapted for reducing the incidence of human cellulite comprising:

(a) a pressure-sensitive, skin adherable first layer comprising an acrylate

5 polymer substrate and theophylline dispersed therein as the active ingredient;

(b) an outer skin conformable, backing second layer comprising a

thermoplastic polyether polyurethane copolymer film;

(c) a protective inner liner third layer which is substantially non-adhesive to

10 the adjacent first layer comprising a silicone coated release paper or a durable cast polyester film; and

(d) a supporting fourth layer, which is a silicone coated release paper or a

polymeric film lightly adhering to the second layer.

13. The multilayer patch of Claim 1 wherein the releasable liner third layer is selected from the group consisting of reconstituted cellulose and cast polyester film, which is pre-coated with a silicone polymer adapted to inhibit adhesion of the third layer to the adjoining first layer, and to facilitate peeling for transdermal patch activation.

14. A method of treating skin with an active ingredient using a multilayer patch suited for adhesion to human skin of a subject and adapted for transdermal delivery of the active ingredient to the skin adhering for an extended periods, the patch consisting:

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- (a) A water vapor permeable, pressure-sensitive, skin adherable first layer containing a dispersed active ingredient, which is a compound having a xanthine structure;
- (b) an outer backing, second layer comprising a water vapor permeable, skin conformable fabric of a polymeric film adapted to provide moisture vapor permeability of the patch so as to permit transdermal moisture loss to escape therethrough; and,
- (c) a protective liner, third layer which is substantially, nonadhesive to the adjacent first layer and is protective of the active ingredient dispersed therein, and is adapted to be readily peeled from the patch at the time of skin application.

15. The multilayer patch of Claim 14 wherein the xanthine structure is selected from a group consisting of caffeine, theophylline, 7-theophylline acetic acid, and theobromine.

16. The multilayer patch of Claim 1 wherein a supporting fourth layer comprising a release liner adapted to lightly adhere to the outer surface of the second layer comprising a flexible polyurethane film.